

**Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP) Organizations**  
**Statement of Interest – Statewide Long-Term Care Reform**  
*Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services*

**Organization Names**

Community Care, Inc.; Community Health Partnership, Inc.; Community Living Alliance, Inc.; Elder Care of Wisconsin, Inc.

**Contact Person and Contract Person's Organization**

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**Brief Description of Organization**

Each of the four Partnership organizations is an independent 501-c-3. The Partnership organizations have been effectively collaborating and working with the Department of Health and Family Services and CMS for many years. The Partnership Organizations have consistently worked together to assist all four organizations to strengthen internal operations and improve quality outcomes for consumers in contractors, DHFS and CMS. The Partnership organizations also continue to facilitate program development and expansion by working with all stakeholders including counties, legislators (and the Legislative Fiscal Bureau), state staff (DHFS, OCI, DOA), advocates, CMS and providers. Specifically related to DHFS, our collaboration is intended to facilitate further return on their investment of time, resources and funding to facilitate progress with a managed care, long-term care reform strategy. The Partnership organizations will further work on program, systems and financial best practice.

**Interest in Planning and Implementing of Long-Term Care Reform in Wisconsin;**

All of the Partnership organizations are involved individually and collectively in various RFI responses and RFP proposals. The following summarizes where the Department of Health and Family Services will see Partnership organization involvement. These activities are not considered mutually exclusive. In other words, involvement in various potential models demonstrates our flexibility and willingness to be a part of the systems reform as options are clarified, selected and funded:

Community Care, Inc. has authored one RFI response for the formation of a regional care management organization in southeastern Wisconsin called Southeastern Wisconsin Care Management Organization. Partnering organizations include The Management Group, Community Care In Action, Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan in cooperation with Kenosha, Racine, Waukesha, Washington and Ozaukee Counties. Community Care, Inc. is also participating in a second RFI/RFP created with the Family Partnership Initiative counties (Columbia, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Jefferson,

Juneau, Marquette, Manitowoc, Ozaukee, Richland, Sauk, Sheboygan, Washington and Waukesha) TMG, LSS, CCIA and LSS. Community Care, Inc. has also submitted a third and independent RFI that indicates our willingness to continue the PACE and Partnership Programs for elders in Milwaukee County and Partnership in Racine County. This third RFI also expresses interest in expanding Partnership and implementing Family Care for elders and physically disabled into counties including but not limited to Kenosha, Waukesha, Washington and Ozaukee and in Milwaukee County for adults with physical disabilities. Community Care, Inc. indicates in this third RFI that it is also willing to develop Family Care for elders and adults with physical disabilities and Partnership for the physically disabled into Racine County. This RFI also discusses exploring and demonstrating how the PACE regulations might be applied to persons with physical disabilities under the age of 55. We have also submitted a fourth RFI/RFP response with Milwaukee County Disability Services Division to expand Partnership and develop Family Care. Providing services for the adults with developmental disability target population would be explored in each of the RFI where Community Care is a participant. Community Care, Inc. has taken the position that we would serve in regional care management organizations by either using our HMO license and/or being a contracted provider within regions for Partnership and Family Care for elders and adults with physical disabilities.

Community Health Partnership is a part of a West Central Wisconsin RFI that would create a nine county regional development with Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, Pierce, Polk and St Croix Counties. TMG and Group Health Cooperative are involved as planning partners. Additionally, CHP is a participant in a northwest county consortium RFI/P with the following nine counties: Rusk, Burnett, Washburn, Sawyer, Price, Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland and Iron. Both TMG and Group Health Cooperative are involved in this effort also. CHP is interested in extending their managed care skills and experience in synergy with the strengths and experience of county partners. In addition, the inclusion of SSI managed care that Group Health Cooperative brings to these efforts will create a stronger delivery system across a broad continuum of consumer needs. CHP is jointly submitting a companion RFI with Group Health Cooperative to inform the Department of the strength of commitment to this broader continuum of care. With the partners, populations to be served include frail elders, adults with physical and developmental disabilities and eventually persons with mental health needs/substance abuse in the region.

Community Living Alliance, Inc. is involved in an RFI/RFP with Dane County. The RFI calls for CLA to be the care management organization for Dane County adult physically developmentally disabled populations using Family Care and Partnership. CLA is also a party to the Family Partnership Care Management Coalition RFI. CLA is also continuing its development of an SSI program in Dane County in collaboration with the Dane County Mental Health Complex.

Elder Care of Wisconsin, Inc., (ECW) along with Community Living Alliance has connected with a number of interested counties, county consortia and other potential partners in the south and south central Wisconsin. ECW is respectful of the need to

coordinate and integrate with current initiatives such as Family Care programs and existing ADRCs, sister WPP sites and other community-based managed care organizations. ECW has committed to full participation in the following two reform initiatives:

The Family Partnership Care Management Coalition (FPCMC) was formed to plan and implement long-term support and health care initiatives in a region of south/central/eastern Wisconsin. FPC is composed of 13 counties and Lutheran Social Services from the long-standing Family Partnership Initiative (Columbia, Dodge, Green Lake, Jefferson, Juneau, Marquette, Ozaukee, Sauk, Sheboygan, Washington, Waukesha, Waushara and Winnebago), two Family Care counties (Fond du Lac and Richland), three Partnership Programs (Elder Care, Community Living Alliance and Community Care) and The Management Group. The FPC is submitting both a Statement of Interest and a grant proposal for planning to DHFS.

The Dane County LTC reform initiative addresses integrated managed care for frail elders, adults with physical disabilities and adults with developmental disabilities. Dane County is taking the lead, with the collaboration of ECW, CLA and The Management Group in preparing and submitting a Statement of Interest and grant proposals for both planning and implementation funding.

ECW and CLA have also met with Rock County to learn more about long-term care services and needs in that area and to let the County Administrator and Human Services Department know of its interest in working with them to explore reform initiatives. In addition, ECW is starting to make contact with other counties in the region to share information on its willingness to serve as a resource, participate in planning and act as a risk-bearing care management organization. ECW also looks forward to working with other partners who share its mission, values and vision for long-term care reform, such as Lutheran Social Services, the developmentally disabled community, local mental health organizations, consumer and advocacy groups, regional health systems, other care providers, The Management Group and so forth.

ECW also brings two other managed care programs to the table in the form of its new Medicare Advantage Special Needs Plans: Reliance Health (for beneficiaries with chronic conditions) and InFocus (for beneficiaries residing in nursing homes).

All of the Wisconsin Partnership organizations have together presented to the Northeastern Wisconsin region counties and will be identified as a technical assistance resource in the RFI/P. The Partnership Organizations remain committed to the future development of care management services, Partnership development and/or technical assistance services as seen fit.

In total, the Partnership organizations are involved in RFI/RFP participation in 37 of Wisconsin's 72 counties. This does not include the 12 northeastern Wisconsin counties (Brown, Calumet, Door, Kewaunee, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago) not already accounted for in other regions,

where our role is not yet defined. The details of our ultimate role will depend on the outcome of the RFI process.

We believe that the Partnership Program is a platform to further long-term care reform. We are ready to build upon that platform as individual organizations and collectively to facilitate reform.

The Partnership organizations believe that our continued collaboration will enable us to meet the needs of consumers, continue to evolve as strong partners with public agencies, further develop our abilities to be effective collaborators with other private agencies, demonstrate our value with state and federal legislators, refine our relationships with advocates, promote our relationships with providers, strengthen our viability as HMOs and encourage quality outcomes.

### **Geographic Area of Interest:**

Depending on the outcome of the RFI process, the Partnership organizations will be able to support the reform of Medicaid and long-term care in 37 of the 72 counties of Wisconsin. The impact may be made as individual agencies, in a pairings of our organizations, in a combination of three of the four of us or with all four. Potential counties where we could be involved include: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Iron, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, Manitowoc, Marquette, Milwaukee, Monroe, Ozaukee, Pierce, Pepin, Polk, Price, Racine, Richland, Rock, Rusk, Sauk, Sawyer, Sheboygan, St. Croix, Washburn, Washington, Waukesha. This does not include the 12 northeastern Wisconsin counties (Brown, Calumet, Door, Kewaunee, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago) not accounted for in other regions, where our role is not yet defined.

### **Proposed Scope and Nature of the Program:**

The following reiterates our individual and shared interests:

Community Care, Inc.: Family Care and Partnership for frail elders and adults with physical disabilities.

Community Health Partnership, Inc.: Family Care, Partnership and SSI Managed Care for elders and adults with physical disabilities.

Community Living Alliance, Inc.: Family Care, Partnership and SSI Managed Care for adults with physical disabilities and adults with developmental disabilities.

Elder Care of Wisconsin, Inc.: Family Care and Partnership for frail elders and adults with physical disabilities and adults with developmental disabilities.

The Wisconsin Partnership organizations recognize the State's requirement to include all three populations in each regional long-term care reform plan. As regional care management organization(s) we will collaborate with our counties, consortia and other partners to accomplish this goal either directly or in contractual arrangements.

The Partnership organizations intend to continue to collaborate to assist in the development of our capacity to meet the needs of all target populations included in the long-term care reform efforts.

**Other Comments or Information:**

This RFI was created in order to indicate to the state that as individual Partnership organizations and collectively, we have been active in trying to assist in the long-term care reform effort. Our intention has been to return the investment the state has made in us now when reform is essential.

A copy of a position paper shared with legislators, the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, the Governor's Office and counties is attached. This position paper outlines how the Partnership Organizations believe that we can be a platform for reform.

12/27/05